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17 Dec 71

The Brethren

GACarver, Jr.

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Attached is more work from the White House in the shape of a self-explanatory memorandum from Phil Odeen. Both Paul Walsh and I have talked to him and discovered, pleasantly, that he is looking for a brief near term intentions paper rather than an exhaustive analytic study. I will attend the 20 December meeting and caucus with you all shortly thereafter so that we may lay out the drafting chores in a fashion that permits them to be executed without undue strain or crimping anyone's holiday revels.

George A. Carver, Jr.
Special Assistant for Vietnamese Affairs

Attachment

1 - SRG File (VAS/RAC)
1 - Brethren
1 - GAC Chrono ✓
1 - VAS Chrono

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VSSG WORKING GROUP (VIETNAM)

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Mr. George Carver, CIA
Rm 6F19, [redacted]

25X1

25X1

[redacted]

BGen John W. Pauly, JCS (J-3)
Pnt, Rm 2D 874, 695-0483

Mr. Arthur Hartman, State
Rm 7212A, 632-2472

MGen Fred Karhohs, OSD(ISA)
Pnt, Rm 4C 840, 695-6944

Mr. Walter Cutler, State
Rm 6209, 632-2691

Mr. Clayton McManaway, OSD(SA)
Pnt, Rm 2E 334, 695-7341

BGen William C. Burrows, JCS (J-5)
Pnt, Rm 2E 964, 697-8591

Mr. Paul Walsh, CIA
Rm 7044, [redacted]

25X1

Pls LDX & return to Anna,
476-1/2 [redacted]

25X1

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NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20506

SECRET

December 16, 1971

MEMORANDUM FOR

Mr. George Carver
[redacted]
BGen John W. Pauly
Mr. Arthur Hartman
MGen Fred Karhohs
Mr. Walter Cutler
Mr. Clayton McManaway
BGen William C. Burrows
Mr. Paul Walsh

25X1

SUBJECT: Updated Vietnam Assessment

In preparation for forthcoming Presidential decisions, it would be useful to update the Vietnam assessment prepared last Spring by the VSSG.

The substantive areas that need updating and a limited amount of further analysis include:

-- Enemy strategy and the threat. This effort should focus on the evaluation of the more recent intelligence in terms of the type and area of enemy activity to be expected during the 1971-72 dry season. CIA will be responsible for the completion of this analysis by January 7, 1972.

-- The Control and Main Force Situation. This effort should focus on assessing the mid-CY 72 situation in Vietnam in light of more recent information. DOD will be responsible for this effort which should be completed by January 14, 1971.

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-- The status of RVNAF improvements programmed. This assessment should be based largely upon the NSDM 118 progress reports. The additional RVNAF improvement programs, if any, should also be considered. In particular, this assessment should consider the RVNAF manpower situation including the availability of manpower for both necessary force improvements and economic development. DOD will be responsible for completing this evaluation by January 14, 1972.

Covering the period through mid-1972, this updated assessment is designed to provide the principals with an evaluation of new developments since last spring, drawing to the extent possible, upon existing analysis. A VSSG Working Group meeting will be held on Monday, December 20, 1971, at 10:00 a.m. in room 459, EOB, to discuss the best way to accomplish these tasks as well as any other areas in which additional analysis is needed. Please submit names of attendees to Miss Piemonte, 395-3194.

Phil Odeen

Philip Odeen
Director, Program Analysis

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